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Hwa Mei Wan Pao of December 1 :-

THE ASSASSINATION OF A "REFORMED GOVERNMENT" OFFICIAL

Zien Ying-ching (錢應清) alias Zien Ching-ping (錢鏡平), Chief of the Debenture Department of the Ministry of Finance of the "Reformed Government", was attacked at his residence at No. 10, Lane 46, Zau Ka Kiao (趙家橋), Hart Road, at 9 a.m. November 29, and died in the Red Cross Hospital on Avenue Haig. He was a native of Tsungming, aged 63. He obtained the degree of B.A. in the Tsing Dynasty and studied in Waseda University of Japan at the expense of the government. His eldest son is the engineer who constructed the Chientang Bridge.

During the regime of the Pei Yang warlords, Zien Ying-ching was Chief of the Currency Bureau and he misappropriated more than a million dollars. A warrant for his arrest was issued by Yuan Shih-kai but this was withdrawn upon payment of \$300,000. At one time he was in charge of the Ministry of Finance when Chen Lu (陳露) was Vice Minister. Chen Lu is at present Minister of Finance of the "Reformed Government". It was he who appointed Zien Ying-ching as Chief of the Debenture Department. Zien was also a Director of the China South Sea Bank of which he was a large shareholder.

November 30, 1938.

Morning Translation

Standard and other local newspapers .-

ASSASSINATION OF A "REFORMED GOVERNMENT" OFFICIAL

Yesterday a murder took place in House No.10, Lane 64, Zau Ka Kiao (趙家橋), Hart Road, the victim being an official of the "Reformed Government".

Enquiries made by our reporter elicited the following information.- Zien Ching-ping (錢鏡平), age 63, native of Tsungming, lived with his wife, Zien Sung Sz (錢沈氏), age 40, at House No.10, Lane 64, Zau Ka Kiao, Hart Road. He had served as a Departmental Chief of the Ministry of Finance in the 4th year of the Chinese Republic (1915) when Yuan Shih-kai was President. After giving up his political career, he devoted himself to philanthropic enterprises and had served on the committees of the Sing Vee Relief Society (華英救濟會), the Yellow River Flood Relief Association and the Federation of Charitable Bodies. He was also an ardent promoter of Buddhism. He had been living at the present address since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities in Shanghai. Following the occupation of Shanghai and the establishment of puppet regimes, he was appointed Chief of the Debenture Department of the Ministry of Finance of the "Reformed Government" under the name of Zien Ying-ching (錢應清).

At 9 a.m. yesterday three men, one armed with a pistol and the other two with axes, entered Zien's home and attacked Zien who was still in bed. He was struck in the head, hands, shoulders and chest and was rendered unconscious. His wife was also hit twice. The three men made good their escape. The injured couple were later removed to the Red Cross Hospital on Avenue Haig where the man succumbed at 3 p.m. while the wife was discharged after having her injuries dressed. The Police are investigating the affair.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIME DIARY.

REGISTRY
"B" Division.
Bubbling Well Police Station.
29th November 1938

Crime Register No. **2573/38.**

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Diary Number 1. | (Sheet No. 1.) | Nature of Offence:— |
| Time at which investigation begun and concluded each day | 9.10 a.m.-12.30 p.m. 29-11-38. | Places visited in course of investigation each day. |
| | | Scene of offence, Red Cross Hospital, Detective Office. |

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION.

| | |
|--|--|
| Place or description of premises. | C.D.H. at Lane 64/10 Lau Ka Jao (趙家橋) Road (near Hart Road). |
| Time and date of offence. | About 8.15 a.m. 29-11-38. |
| Time and date reported. | 9.10 a.m. 29-11-38. |
| Name, occupation and address of complainant. | Zien Ching Bing (張鏡平), age 63, retired, above address. |
| Number of criminals with full individual description. | <p>Three:</p> <p>(1) Age 30-35, 5'7/8", medium build, face(?), dark grey long gown, Kompo dialect.</p> <p>(2) Age 30-32, 5'4/5", medium build, face(?), dark short jacket and pants, Kompo dialect, short pistol.</p> <p>(3) Kompo appearance, armed with an axe.</p> |
| Arrests. | ----- |
| Classification of property stolen. | ----- Value \$ |
| Classification of property recovered. | ----- Value \$ |
| <p>In cases of Murder or Suspected Murder points (a) to (d) should be answered.</p> <p>(a) Time and date body was discovered. (b) Position, appearance and marks on body. (c) Apparent cause of death. (d) Motive if known.</p> | <p>-----</p> <p><i>Handwritten notes and signatures:</i> 30/11/38 30/11/38 30/11/38</p> |
| <p>Full Details of Method used in Committing offence.</p> <p>In cases of larceny, housebreaking etc., all the points (e) to (i) should be answered, if known. In all cases in which there is fraud, the false pretence and the character assumed by the suspect should be fully described.</p> <p>(e) Mode of entry, including manner of approach to premises. (f) Means used (tools etc.) (g) Character assumed by criminal, and story told, etc. (h) Mode of transport and description. (i) Peculiar act (poisoning dog, partaking of food etc.)</p> | <p>(e) Entered by open door on pretext of delivering a letter to the complainant. Herded inmates on groundfloor into small room. Went to 1st floor, dragged complainant from bed to landing, and while one held complainant's wrists the other struck him with the axe.</p> <p>(f) Axe.</p> <p>(g) As above.</p> |

CRIME DIARY NO. 1. (SHEET NO. 2)

- (g) What staff employed on premises ?
- (k) Are they all "old" servants ?
- (l) If not, what was their last employment and for how long ?
- (m) What was their "characters" ?
- (n) If any suspicion attached to any of them and if so, which one and for what reason ?
- (o) Are old servants suspected ?
- (p) Are friends and visitors above suspicion if not, who is suspected ?

Remarks

(Any outstanding or peculiar feature to be commented on by investigating officer).

Specimens by H.S. Goss, D.D.I. in Penn Mo,
2.2.1.142 and 2.2.1.271.

At 8.15 a.m. 29-11-38 Chung Hoen Tsang (陳漢章),
 211/10, No. 64/10, Yen Ku Joo Road (near Hart Road),
 came to the Division and reported that at 8.15 a.m.
 he was employed by a female with a date to murder his
 father-in-law (see Ho Joo Hing (錢鏡子) at the above
 address.

... .. was seasoned. At the same time Detective went to the above address and learned the following:-

Line 64/10 of the Jiao road is occupied by Zien Ching Shu, who was Assistant Commissioner in the Ministry of Finance in Imperial Government at Peking up to the formation of the Chinese Republic in 1911. Since that time he has lived at various addresses in Shanghai, and is said to have kept out of political affairs. His second wife Zien Sung Sz (錢松), twelve relatives of various degrees and three maid servants share the house. Formerly Zien Ching Bing was a wealthy man but during the last few years has lost much money and is now living economically. He has an aversion to meeting strangers and when any call they are told that he is out and requested to call again.

At about 8.15 a.m. 29-11-38 three strangers as described on Sheet No.1, entered the house through the open front door and met Kien Iung Lung (李应成) (complainant's nephew) and Lung Hoen Tsang (complt's distant nephew) in the guestroom. One of the three

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIME DIARY.

CRIME REGISTER No:— 2573/38(BW)

.....Division.
.....Police Station.
.....19

Diary Number: 1 (Sheet 3)

Nature of Offence:—

Time at which
investigation begun
and concluded each day

Places
visited in
course of
investigation
each day

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION.

strangers, probably the 1st described, produced an addressed letter which he said had come from Hongkew, and asked for the "Master" and then for "Mr. Zien". Zien Iung Zung in accordance with instructions said that Mr. Zien was not at home. Upon this, another of the strangers, probably the 2nd described, produced a short pistol and herded both Zien Iung Zung and Zung Hoen Tsang into a small wing room at the back and closed the door on them. Three men and the complainant's son, aged 9 years, were in the kitchen. The three men paid no attention to them but searched the front wing room for Mr. Zien Ching Bing.

The three strangers then went upstairs to the complainant's bedroom on the first floor. Two of them entered and dragged the old man from his bed to the landing where one of them held the complainant's wrists while the other hacked at his head with an axe. The complt's. wife Zien Sung Sz, who was in another bed in the same room, stated that the first stranger appeared to be unarmed but the second flourished an axe. She hurried after them to the landing and in attempting to save her husband she received axe injuries to her head and left hand.

While the murderers were hacking at the complainant's head, the axe fell off the haft. They then left their victim and made good their escape after being on the premises about two minutes.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIME DIARY.

CRIME REGISTER No:—2573/36(B4)

.....Division.
.....Police Station.
.....19

Diary Number:—1 (Sheet 4)

Nature of Offence:—

| Time at which investigation begun and concluded each day | Places visited in course of investigation each day |
|--|--|
|--|--|

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION.

The remainder of the household came to the assistance of Zien Ching Bing and his wife. At the same time Zien Sung Sung (nephew) telephoned to the complainant's daughter Sung Wei 程錢氏 at 144 R. Reid, and asked her to come to the house. After she had arrived it was decided upon to call the police.

Both injured persons were taken to the Chinese Red Cross Hospital, Avenue 501, and certified as follows:

Zien Ching Bing: "Lacerated wound of scalp and compound fracture of skull. Condition critical."

Zien Sung Sz: "Lacerated wound of right face and left hand. Condition fair."

All relatives and servants living in the complt's. house were questioned. Only one suggestion of a possible motive was obtained. Sung Bing Wei (沈炳万) (brother-in-law by complainant's 2nd wife) stated that about three months ago while he was in Da Tsung Sung (大椿鎮), Tsongging (complainant's native place), he met another distant nephew of the complainant's named Loh Siao 陸小仕, who mentioned in an off-hand way that Zien Ching Bing (complainant) had been invited by somebody unknown to join the Reformed Government at Nanking. No further details were available as Loh Siao 2 is not in Shanghai. Efforts to obtain details of visitors to the complainant's home and his outside activities

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIME DIARY.

CRIME REGISTER No:—2573/38(BW)

Division.

Police Station.

19

Diary Number:—1 (Sheet 5)

Nature of Offence:—

Time at which
investigation begun
and concluded each day

Places
visited in
course of
investigation
each day

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION.

produced nothing relevant. The complainant appears not to have had any visitors outside the family and close-friend circle. Daily he attends the "Pure Karma Buddhists" Association at 418 Hart Road, and is not known to have other interests.

Inquiries were made in Zuo Ka Jiao Road in the neighbourhood of Lane 64, but no witnesses of the arrival and departure of the murderers were found.


Detectives will keep in contact with the complt's. family, and the complainant will be carefully questioned should he recover from his injuries.

The general impression gained is that the complt's. household know more than they are prepared to tell at the moment. It is unlikely that he could be approached concerning participation in the Reformed Government without others apart from Loh Siao Z knowing.

Informed: D.C. (Crime).
D.O. *B*.
D.D.O. *B*.

Attended: Senior Detective 1/c.

Copies to: D.C. (Divisions).
D.C. (Special Branch).


D. S.
D.S.I. Wu Chen Mo.
C.D.S. 142.
C.D.C. 271.


Sen. Det. 1/c.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

CRIME DIARY.

CRIME REGISTER No:— 2573/38.

B Division.
Bubbling Wall Police Station.
29th November 1938.

Diary Number:— 2.

Nature of Offence:— 1.

Time at which
investigation begun
and concluded each day

Places
visited in
course of
investigation
each day

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION.

At 3.10 p.m. 29-11-38 a message was received from the Chinese Red Cross Hospital stating that Lien Ching Bing had died.

The body has been removed to the Public Mortuary, Kiacchow Road, pending an inquest on 30-11-38. Witnesses have been warned to attend.

Medical certificate attached.

D. S.
D.S.I. Wu Chen Mo.
C.D.S. 142.
C.D.C. 271.

Sen. Det. 1/c.

D.D.O. *B* Div.

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CHINA PRESS

NOV 30 1938

Another Local Gov't Official Assassinated

Bond Office Executive Dies After Attack By Axe Killers

Zee Ching-ping, 61, head of the bond and loan office maintained by the finance department of the Shanghai City Government, and formerly an official of the old Peking Government, is dead while his wife is in the Chinese Red Cross Hospital receiving treatment for severe axe wounds about the face and body.

The wounds were inflicted by three would-be assassins who entered the Zee home, House 10, Lane 64, Hart Road, about 9 a.m. yesterday. One of the assailants was armed with a pistol while the other two carried axes.

After forcing their way past the servants of the Zee household, the thugs entered the living room and grabbed both the man and his wife. They threw the aged couple to the floor, sat on them and proceeded to hack both victims about the face, hands and arms.

Mrs. Zee sustained two severe wounds to the head and a bad cut on the right arm. Mr. Zee was cut about the arms, side and cheeks.

While the attack against the couple was underway, a servant managed to raise an alarm whereupon the three would-be killers took to their heels. They had disappeared completely before the police arrived on the scene. Both of the victims were rushed by emergency ambulance to the Chinese Red Cross Hospital.

Despite the efforts of attending surgeons and physicians, Zee died yesterday afternoon, several hours after his arrival at the hospital. His wife was still alive last night but her condition is reported to be serious.

Up to a late hour last night the police had established no definite motive for the killing. Because of Zee's connections with the Shanghai City Government, however, it is believed that the attack bears considerable political significance.

C. J. O. C. H.
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